

§ 577.1

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 30102, 30103, 30116–30121, 30166; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 49 CFR 501.8.

SOURCE: 41 FR 56816, Dec. 30, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

§ 577.1 Scope.

This part sets forth requirements for manufacturer notification to owners, dealers, and distributors of motor vehicles and items of replacement equipment about a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety or a noncompliance with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard.

[69 FR 34959, June 23, 2004]

§ 577.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to ensure that notifications of defects or noncompliances adequately inform and effectively motivate owners of potentially defective or noncomplying motor vehicles or items of replacement equipment to have such vehicles or equipment inspected and, where necessary, remedied as quickly as possible. It is also to ensure that dealers and distributors of motor vehicles and items of replacement equipment are made aware of the existence of defects and noncompliances and of their rights and responsibilities with regard thereto.

[41 FR 56816, Dec. 30, 1976, as amended at 69 FR 34959, June 23, 2004]

§ 577.3 Application.

This part applies to manufacturers of complete motor vehicles, incomplete motor vehicles, and replacement equipment. In the case of vehicles manufactured in two or more stages, compliance by either the manufacturer of the incomplete vehicle, any subsequent

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manufacturer, or the manufacturer of affected replacement equipment, shall be considered compliance by each of those manufacturers.

§ 577.4 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part:

Act means 49 U.S.C. Chapter 30101–30169.

Administrator means the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration or his delegate.

First purchaser means the first purchaser in good faith for a purpose other than resale.

Leased motor vehicle means any motor vehicle that is leased to a person for a term of at least four months by a lessor who has leased five or more vehicles in the twelve months preceding the date of notification by the vehicle manufacturer of the existence of a safety-related defect or noncompliance with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard in the motor vehicle.

Lessee means a person who is the lessee of a leased motor vehicle as defined in this section.

Lessor means a person or entity that is the owner, as reflected on the vehicle's title, of any five or more leased vehicles (as defined in this section), as of the date of notification by the manufacturer of the existence of a safety-related defect or noncompliance with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard in one or more of the leased motor vehicles.

Owners includes purchaser.

[41 FR 56816, Dec. 30, 1976, as amended at 60 FR 17270, Apr. 5, 1995]

§ 577.5 Notification pursuant to a manufacturer's decision.

(a) When a manufacturer of motor vehicles or replacement equipment determines that any motor vehicle or item of replacement equipment produced by him contains a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety, or fails to conform to an applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standard, he shall provide notification in accordance with paragraph (a) of § 577.7, unless the manufacturer is exempted by the Administrator (pursuant to section 157 of the Act) from giving such notification. The